

# Holiday Reading

# Children's Day

Children's Day in Japan is celebrated on May 5<sup>th</sup>. It has been a national holiday in Japan since 1948. Children's Day is one of a group of national holidays called Golden Week. Since the 8<sup>th</sup> century, it was traditional to have special days for children twice a year—March 3<sup>rd</sup> for girls and May 5<sup>th</sup> for boys.



– *Simple Wikipedia*

# Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year is a holiday on the first day of the year in the traditional Chinese calendar. This calendar comes from changes in the moon. Chinese New Year is never on January 1<sup>st</sup>. It moves between January 21<sup>st</sup> and February 20<sup>th</sup>. On the holiday, people learn which “animal” of the Chinese zodiac they are part of. The holiday is a time for large family meals. Children usually get presents of money in red envelopes.



– *Simple Wikipedia*

# Ramadan

Ramadan is a special month for Islam. During Ramadan, Muslims do not eat or drink during the day. Instead, they have large dinners in the evening. This teaches people about patience and hard work. It is a time to think about homeless people, too. The date for Ramadan comes from the moon, so it changes each year.

– *Simple Wikipedia*



# Boxing Day

Boxing Day is a holiday in the U.K., Canada, New Zealand and Australia. It comes from a tradition of giving presents to poor people. It is celebrated on December 26<sup>th</sup>. Many stores have sales, and many football and rugby teams play games. Boxing Day is an old holiday. Hundreds of years ago, servants in England got money or gifts. These gifts were called “Christmas boxes”.



– *Simple Wikipedia*

# Hanukkah

Hanukkah is a Jewish holiday celebrated in November or December. Hanukkah is eight days long. There is a menorah – a special candle holder with eight candles. On the first day, people light the first candle. On the second day, they light two candles, and so on. The first Hanukkah was held thousands of years ago. It celebrated winning a war.



– *Simple Wikipedia*